

VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS: 2018 – 2019

Information Sheet

The President's Volunteer Service Award

The Knight Service Award

What is the President's Volunteer Service Award?

The President's Volunteer Service Award is a highly coveted award that recognizes the contributions of volunteers who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation over the course of a 12-month period.

What is the Knight Service Award?

Similar to the President's Volunteer Service Award, the award recognizes students with significant volunteer service hours that fall short of achieving the President's award levels.

What are the service award levels?

The table below shows the award level earned by service hour totals. The age category is determined by your age at the time of the 12-month period reported. Students with service hours both before and after turning 16 years may consider reporting only the hours served up to their 16th birthday in order to qualify for the Teen (under 16) category.

Note: All hours by age category must be in a 12-month period and not overlap with prior award time period

Age	Knight Award	President's Volunteer Service Award		
		Bronze	Silver	Gold
Teens: 11-15 yrs	25-49 hours	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100+ hours
Young Adults: 16-25 yrs	50-99 hours	100-174 hours	175-249 hours	250+ hours

What are the qualifications?

- Service hours must be unpaid and must not earn school credit.
- Service hours must not include court-ordered community service.
- Service hours related to political lobbying or political campaign work do not count.
- Service hours for religious instruction or worship do not count.
- Service hours must be for an organization that is U.S./Puerto Rico-based. Service outside the U.S. can qualify if the service is for a U.S./Puerto Rico-based organization.
- The President's Volunteer Service Award is awarded only to U.S. citizens and legal residents; there are no residency restrictions to earn the Knight Service Award.

How do I apply for a service award?

Information and application forms are found on the Las Lomas website under Students/Volunteer Service Awards. Application packages are due each year the week after Spring Break. Students are responsible for keeping an hours log and obtaining supervisor signatures upon completion of each service activity throughout the year. Some specific application requirements:

- A daily log including date and hours worked is required for service activities greater than 1 week.
- All hours must be verified and signed by an authorized representative of the organization. The student's parent may not verify their own child's hours. The signature may be on the 'Verification Form' or attached in a separate document on the organization's letterhead stationery.
- Do not record hours on the President's Award website.

When do I apply for a service award?

Submit applications including 'Summary Page' with attached Verification Form(s) to the attendance office between March 25 and April 10, 2019. The annual Knight Service Award Ceremony will be held in May/June 2018.

What are some examples of qualified service activities?

Qualifying Service Examples	Non-qualifying Service Examples
On-campus Peer Tutoring (not for school credit or a grade)	Court-ordered community service
Sports Med Volunteering (beyond class requirement)	Politically-related lobbying or campaign work
School garden or other community garden work	Religious instruction
Contra Costa Food Bank	Religious worship
Habitat for Humanity	Peer Tutoring for a grade
Monument Crisis Center	Sports Med Volunteer hours required for class grade
Boy Scout & Girl Scout Volunteer Service	Volunteering outside of the US for an organization based outside the US or Puerto Rico
Hospitals	
Museums (ex: Chabot Space & Science Center)	
Special Olympics	
Search & Rescue	
National Charity League or Boys Team Charity	
Mission Trips (organization must be based in US/Puerto Rico)	
Voter Registration	

Are there guidelines around what service activities qualify?

Below is some guidance by different categories of whether an activity qualifies for volunteer service hours (as opposed to an extra-curricular activity for the student's benefit). Following are some clarifying examples:

Organization Category	Guidance
Organizations including: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts	Volunteer hours count as long as they are active volunteer hours. Hours for meetings, events, and financial donations will not receive credit. You will not receive credit for hours worked by others supporting your project.
National Charity League, Boys Team Charity, Lion's Heart	
Performing Arts (Drama/Choir/Band)	Most performance time is considered extra-curricular and does not count. Performing at a community event or fundraiser for free (ex: Fun Run) is considered service hours if there is no school credit and no payment. Performing at church/school musical would not count as it would be considered extra-curricular.
Camps	Students volunteering at an overnight camp should only include hours in which they are actively working. Meals, sleeping, and non-active volunteer time would not count.
Mission trips	Only active volunteer hours count. You may not include hours spent traveling, sleeping, eating, team-bonding, etc.
Religious Organizations	Activities benefitting those outside the religious organization are eligible (ex: food bank, winter night shelters), while activities benefitting the religious organizations or considered extra-curricular (ex: choir, youth group, altar boy/girl) do not. Any hours involving religious instruction or conducting worship service do not qualify.
Political Activities and Voter Registration	Political lobbying or campaign work does not qualify. Non-partisan voter reg. is eligible.